

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.(Currently amended) A remote printing server which receives data from a client computer via a local network and sends data over a global network so as to print the data on a remote printer which does not exist in the local network, comprising:

print response means for performing a print control protocol for a local printer in the local network so that the client computer can recognize said remote printing server as a local printer in the local network, receiving print data from the client computer and performing a response to the client computer so that a print process of the print data can be completed locally in the client computer before the received print data is spooled in a spooling area in said remote printing server;

spooling means for spooling the print data received by said print response means in the spooling area;

transferring data conversion means for converting the print data spooled by said spooling means into a transferrable format in which the print data can be transferred to the remote printer over the global network using a predetermined transfer protocol; and

remote transfer means for transferring the print data converted into the transferrable format by said transferring data conversion means to the remote printer over the global network using the predetermined transfer protocol.

2. (Previously presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, further

comprising:

recovery means for performing a recovery process on the print completion job transferred by said remote transfer means as necessary.

3. (Previously presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, further comprising:

selection means for selecting a transfer protocol for remote transfer of the data.

4. (Previously presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, wherein said remote transfer means uses a file transfer protocol or a mail distribution protocol.

5. (Previously presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, further comprising:

encipher means for enciphering print completion job transferred by said remote transfer means.

6. (Previously presented) The remote printing server according to claim 1, further comprising:

transfer control means for controlling a transfer parameter setting file and said remote transfer means by referring to the transfer parameter setting file.

7. (Previously presented) A remote print system, comprising:

the remote printing server and the remote printer according to claim 1.

8. (Currently amended) A data processing method performed by a remote printing server for receiving data from a client computer via a local network and for sending data over a global network so as to print the data on a remote printer which does not exist in the local network, comprising:

a print response step of performing a print control protocol for a local printer in the local network so that the client computer can recognize said remote printing server as a local printer in the local network, receiving print data from the client computer and performing a response to the client computer so that a print process of the print data can be completed locally in the client computer before the received print data is spooled in a spooling area in said remote printing server;

a spooling step of spooling the print data received in said print response step in the spooling area;

a transferring data conversion step of converting the print data spooled in said spooling step into a transferrable format in which the print data can be transferred to the remote printer over the global network using a predetermined transfer protocol; and

a remote transfer step of transferring the print data converted into the transferrable format in said transferring data conversion step to the remote printer over the global network using the predetermined transfer protocol.

9. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program used to direct a computer to use as a remote printing server for receiving data from a client computer via a local network and for sending data over a global network so as to print the data

on a remote printer which does not exist in the local network, comprising:

a print response step of performing a print control protocol for a local printer in the local network so that the client computer can recognize said remote printing server as a local printer in the local network, receiving print data from the client computer and performing a response to the client computer so that a print process of the print data can be completed locally in the client computer before the received print data is spooled in a spooling areas in said remote printing server;

a spooling step of spooling the print data received in said print response step in the spooling area;

a transferring data conversion step of converting the print data spooled in said spooling step into a transferrable format in which the print data can be transferred to the remote printer over the global network using a predetermined transfer protocol; and

a remote transfer step of transferring the print data converted into the transferrable format in said transferring data conversion step to the remote printer over the global network using the predetermined transfer protocol.

10. (Canceled).